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is below 50 inches per annum. On important roads, the metalling is covered over with black top surface depending on the availability of funds.''

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—'' Inasmuch as heavy rains are one of the causes for the bad condition of roads in the West Coast, will the Government consider the question of instituting some research to find out whether some new method can be evolved so that the roads may not get damaged on account of the heavy rains? ''

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—'' As regards the hon. Member's suggestion, I may inform him that the Government are going to set up a new research station and that research centre will go into that question. Apart from that, the Chief Engineer has also stated that due to heavy rainfall there has been deterioration of roads and that the minimum thing that can be done to prevent that economically is black-topping the road surface. This, the Government have approved of.''

Compensation under the Motor Vehicles Taxation Act.

* 1958-G Q.—SRI N. K. PALANISAMY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have decided to defer consideration of the question of enhancing the compensation payable to the Madras Corporation and other local bodies under the Madras Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, 1931; and

(*b*) if so, why?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—'' (*a*) Yes, Sir.

'' (*b*) As the proposal of the Government of India to lay down an uniform taxation policy in regard to motor vehicles throughout India, is likely to affect the motor vehicles taxation structure in this State, this Government are awaiting the decision of the Government of India in the matter.''

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—'' In view of the fact that the Government are deriving a revenue of not less than 37 lakhs of rupees in the City of Madras under the Motor Vehicles Taxation Act and also in view of the fact the Government are only giving to the Corporation of Madras a sum of Rs. 6 lakhs for the maintenance of roads will the Government consider the feasibility of enhancing the share of the revenue of the Corporation derived under the Motor Vehicles Taxation Act? May I also remind the Hon. Minister that when he was the Mayor of the Corporation he himself led a deputation to the Government of Madras pleading for a greater share to be allotted to the Corporation? ''

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—'' I did lead a deputation when I was the Mayor of Madras. Now, I find that the ways and means position of the Government does not permit

increased share. At any rate the amount spent from Government funds on roads exceeds the income from Motor Vehicles taxation by more than one crore of rupees."

9–10 a.m. SRI M. PALANIYANDI :—" மேயராக இருக்கும்போது தூது செல்வதும், மந்திரியாக இருக்கும்போது அதைச் செய்யாமல் இருப்பதும் தர்மமா என்று கேட்கிறேன்."

MR. SPEAKER :—" தர்மம் வீட்டிலே."

SRI S. PANCHAKSHARAM :—" Is there not a proposal for granting permits for local bodies to run bus routes for augmenting their resources for the loss that they have incurred on this head?"

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" I do not think this question arises out of the main question."

Re-opening of Sugar Factory at Coimbatore.

* 1958-H *Q.*—SRI S. R. ARUMUGAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state whether any proposal to re-open the sugar factory at Coimbatore was made by Sri Palaniappa Mudaliar at the meeting of the District Planning Board held on 1st February 1955 and if so, the action taken thereon?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" No, Sir."

Provincialization of Local Fund Hospital at Kulittalai.

* 1958-I *Q.*—SRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM (on behalf of Sri M. Manickasundaram): Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received the resolution of the District Board, Tiruchirappalli, suggesting that the Local Fund Hospital at Kulittalai be taken over by the Government; and

(*b*) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (*a*) Yes, Sir.

" (*b*) The President, Tiruchirappalli District Board, has been requested to renew the proposal, through the Director of Medical Services in August 1955 for consideration in connexion with the Part II Schemes for 1956–57."

Electrification of Tirunelveli Taluk Office.

* 1958-J *Q.*—SRI R. S. ARUMUGAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) when the Taluk office of Tirunelveli taluk was electrified; and

(*b*) whether there is any restriction to provide electric fans to Taluk offices?